TO THE PARLIAMENT OF ENGLAND AND ARMY.

THE DECLARATION OF Colonel *ANTHONY WELDON*, OF

His faithfull services, and sufferings by oppression for them since the beginning of this war to this present, without any manner of redresse, and his necessitated resolutions thereupon.

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ERRATA.

P.7. l.11. r. *I being*; l.20. r. *but*; p.16. l.6. r. *aimed*; p.17. l.35. r. *Blunt*; p.27. l.1. for and, r. *I*; l.27. r. *who wholly*, l.28. for whole, r *House*; p.28. l.10. r. *world*; l.24. dele *be*; p.29. l.18. for suspecting, r. *because*; p.30. l.12. for they, r. *suit I*, p.32. l.11. r. *him*; p.34. l.13. r. *were not trucked*; l.26 r. *not averr'd*; p.35. l.6. r. *late sufferance*; p.39. l.18. r. *delays*; l.22. r. *them*, l.25. r. *a week*; l.24. for us, r. *all*, p.42. l. ult. r. *Sir*; p.43. l.15. r. *it*; l.18. r. *on*; l.31. r. *Esmond*; p.44. l.6. for some, r. *him*.

Reader.

IN this ensuing Treatise I cannot but expect the censure of many, especially of those whose injuries to the publick service of the State I have made known. Peradventure in the returne of what is here written, I may behind my back be upbrayded as a man of too high a Spirit.

To that I answer, He that is not of a sufficient proportion of courage to dare to vindicate his own honour in causes of his chiefest concernments, is of an unproper Spirit for a Souldier, and unfit for Martiall affaires.

I have never heard of any Generall or State complaine of the too greatnesse of any Commanders Spirit, provided it be with integrity and loyalty, expresst in the behalf of that party wherein he is an undertaker.

The Justice of which integrity in my own behalf, I know my greatest enemies dare not to infringe. If faithful service ungratefully requited may justly be converted into the greatest hatred, then blame not the earnestnes of his Spirit that is laden with oppressions; for heights and earnestnesse of Spirit, may easily be forgiven where it is onely exercised in verball expressions of injuries, and not in actuall revenge.

And therfore I crave the temperate censure of the Reader, if he find the sence of my sufferings exasperated by not finding that cure of my oppressions I might have expected, my complaints being unheard or unredressed by those to whom I have repaired for Justice.

I have therefore written what enſueth to ſatisfie the world what courſe ſoever I may be forced to take hereafter that it is not my Nature or principle, but theſe extremities I am under drives me unto it, whereof by all people in Print of cenſure I deſire to ſtand cleare.

Neithe have I heer aimed at the State or any publick affaires farther then my own intereſt in the agitations of my Commands; this is the intent of what is written, more I conceive unneceſſary to expreſſe, and this I hope will be as full ſatisfaction to the Reader as it is content in point of honor and conſcience to the Writer.

Who is yours

ANTHONY WELDON.

To

To the Parliament of England And ARMIE,

The DECLARATION of Colonel Anthony Weldon, of his faithfull Services, and Sufferings by oppression therefore, since the beginning of the Wars to this present, without any manner of redresse.

THe first year of these stirs between *England* and *Scotland*, I being beyond Seas, met with the Earl of *Denby* returning from *Venice*, through whose favour and perswasion I returned with him (from *Lyons* in *France*, where I first met him) to *Newcastle*, where the King with his Army at that time was going against the Scots: with which Army I then likewise engaged, not knowing how affairs had passed at home: though most of all the places were long ere my coming disposed of, yet had I the fortune to have the cõmand of the *Northumb.* Regiment given me. After that years service was past, and those Forces disbanded, and the year following an Army to be again raised, *I* might have gone as formerly; but refused, as not being at all satisfied of the lawfulness of that Engagement, and for some other reasons which I expressed in a Letter to the Earl of *Northumberland* General of that Army, and so went aside beyond seas, till all

places were disposed, and then returned. How the transactions of businesse then stood, I need not relate, as the contriving to bring up the Army to over-awe the Parliament, and the Kings coming to demand the five Members out of the House afterwards; for which actions, though by Vote of the Houses none of those Officers were to be imployed for *Ireland*; yet most of all the said Officers were imployed, and in the most eminent places for *Ireland*, and I so look'd on for those former reasons, that where others were advanced, I onely of all the rest was glad to take less then I had done formerly, and beyond seas long before, and was forced (if I would go at all) to go with a single Company, (which my zeal prompted me cheerfully to accept) and on the most desperate service of all other that went; namely, to the Castle of *Duncannon* besieged: which I undertook, beleeving the cause most just; and in this, I not only relieved the same, but raised the siege: And what particular services with expedition I did them, I refer my self to the Lord *Esmonds* Letter to the Houses, and their particular acknowledgement to me, though since buried in oblivion: My return for *England* was for re-victualling the said Fort, I being two years in the same, fighting daily with the *Irish* without giving or taking quarter, without any fresh victuals or bread, but what by force of Arms we won with our Swords, no Forces neer to assist us, nor any provisions we could expect but what came from the Parliament by Sea from *England*. I pawned all my own cloathes to Mr. *Boyle* at *Yaughal*, and all I could get to buy my Souldiers Shooes and Stockings, which otherwise must have been wholly unserviceable for want of their pay. In this Castle was I thus pent up, no friends nearer then *Yaughal* on the one side, distant thirty miles, and *Dublin* threescore miles distant on the other side: And the sad news arriving to us of the unhappy difference of the King and the Parliament, which, as it made difference in opinions in all other parts, so that little Fort was not exempted: and as my actions in denying to be imployed the second year against the Scots, and refusing the invitation to *White-hall* to go with the King to demand the Members, shewed my adherence to the Parliament;

so

ſo declared I my ſelf there; and my Lord *Eſmond* contrarily for the King, to whom he writ by Sir *Henry Stradling*: though before we had expreſſed as much love each to other as Father and Son, as may be witneſſed by the report I gave of him to the Houſe at my Return, who ſuſpected much his fidelity, as may be ſeen by thoſe Inſtructions given me by the Earl of *Leiceſter* at my going over; and my ſelf being the only man which freed the Lord *Eſmond* from the ſaid ſuſpicion; but afterwards finding, contrary to my expectation, his correſpondency in private with the Iriſh, his writing a Letter by Sir *Henry Stradling* to the King, aſſuring his Majeſtie that as he held the Fort from him, ſo would he hold it for him only; this comming to my knowledge, I advertiſed by ſeverall Articles againſt the ſaid Lord, being bound thereto both by inſtructions from the Earle of *Leiceſter, viz.* That you ſhall from time to time advertiſe the Parliament, or his Lordſhip of all occurrences; I ſent theſe Articles by Captaine *Brookes*, then in the Haven; but the Lord *Eſmond* knowing would not permit the ſaid Captain to go out of the Harbour till by ſtealth he got away, and the verity hereof I referre to the ſaid Captaine, at this preſent in Towne, and Captaine *Jourden* and Captaine *Chappel* of *Briſtow*, the two firſt faithfull to the Parliament, but the laſt I much ſuſpected then, and know not how ſince he hath proved; my Lord knowing my Articles were gone, did labour all he could how to divert me from the proſecution thereof, to make me recall them, which when he ſaw he could by no meanes obtaine, he then fell to threats, ſtirring my Souldiers and Officers to mutiny againſt me, cavilling about accounts proviſions and the like, telling them I had cozened and abuſed them; ſo that I was forced for my owne Juſtification to get certificats under all their hands to the contrary, which they did freely; when he ſaw this could not alſo prevail, he ſent both me and my men daily on unneceſſary, yet deſperate ſervice, thinking to be rid of me that way as he rid himſelf of Captain *Auſtin*; when he ſaw God proſpered me in all the ſervice I undertook, and I performed all ſervices, and without loſſe, and that by others unfortunateneſs and indiſcretion, or want of experience our men

were

were brought so weak, that of three hundred we had scarce one halfe, and when *Tintrne* was given over by young Cap. *Austin* who sent to my Lord to receive these men to strengthen the Fort & supply the places of those men that were so unnecessarily lost, and only for lucre and avarice of pillage for himself, and contrary to my instructions given under the Earl of *Leicesters* hand, who willed me not to be commanded out of the Fort in any number; I was forced to deny him any more men to go abraod unless he commanded them against my will; I publiquely protested my self innocent if any loss should come to the Fort which was in great danger to be Surprized, whereupon he complained to the Lord of *Ormond* and requested him to send for me away to *Dublin*, complainig of my disobedience, he sent me at last perforce to *Dublin*; denying me my own menuall servants, seized on my goods, and when I came to *Dublin*, as before, so then his Chaplaine offered me in the presence of Cap. *Bartlet*, if I would repeale my Articles sent against him to the Parliament, he would not prosecute his, and offered me a summe of mony to that end, which I not only rejected, but told him mine were on good ground, his unjust, and bid him do his worst, for all *Ormond* was his great friend, as was well known, and I had none, nor desired I any but the justness of my cause; the Earl of *Ormond* however saw so small reason, that he only confined me to *Dublin*, where I waited, but could never be either heard or dispatched, nor have the least hope of Justice; *Esmond* had seized on my goods already and my pay, so I could not subsist, wherupon I went to the Parliaments Commissioners, Master *Reynolds* and Master *Goodwin*, who saw how affaires went, and bid me when the wind was faire, be gon for *England*, for I could expect no justice there; I took their advice, found my Lord of *Leicester*, at *Chester*, I resigned my Command to him and demanded Justice, which he promised me and gave me his passe to *London*, I was there enough invited, and offers made me of honorable Commands, would I have ingaged against the Parliament; forces at that time a levying at *Chester* for the King; but I still keeping to my first principles, besides expecting redresse from the Parliament for these injuries done me for my fidelity to them, to whom I petitioned

petitioned and made friends, but all in vaine; I waited till I had ſo waſted my ſelf, that I could ſubſiſt no longer; no ſatiſfaction nor redreſſe till I was reduced to that neceſſitie, that I was forced to ſeek imployment, which by the aſſiſtance of my Lord *Say*, and Maſter *Nicols*, I obtained; and was ſent downe to the Earl of *Lincolne* to be his Major of horſe, when I came there I as well received of the Earl himſelf; and though moſt of the Committee knew the ſervices aed fidelity I had ſhewen to the Parliament already, yet becauſe Sir *Edward Aſcue* had an intention to preferre his Son Captaine *Aſcue* to that place, and being a ſtranger thruſt on them though they neither could nor durſt publiſh any reaſon to the contrary, yet privately they irritated my Lord againſt me, yet enjoyn'd his Lordſhip not to let me know of it, and they denyed to obey the warrant of the grand Committee of Lords and Commons to give me my mounting mony, till at laſt my Lord told them plainly he would not ſtay long, if I did not; whereupon to pleaſe his Lordſhip they yeelded I ſhould have mounting mony, but you may imagine eaſily how their affections ſtood; however themſelves told his Lordſhip ere I came down if it were the ſame man that was in *Ireland*, he had done excellent good ſervice there. Major Generall *Ballard* being at that time diſgrac'd they ſent me abroad to lye under *Newarke* with all their horſe to keep the enemy in, but ſo confin'd me that by their order I ſhould not ſtir from thoſe places they ordered me to Quarter in, till their further direction; the enemies horſe and foot came and march'd by me, took *Grantham*; I looked on, but could not ſtir till I muſt ſend to the Committee for their further order; when the Enemy was poſſeſſed of the towne they ſent me orders to martch, yet before I marched one mile they countermanded me; I perceiving they valued not the loſſe of their Countrey ſo they might affront me; for what was it elſe, to ſend me out and bind up my hands, when I had fit opportunity to gaine honor and ſerve them? they would faine then have diſgraced me, but durſt not, it being too evident by their own orders, themſelves were the ſole Authors of theſe miſcarriages, I wrote them word on theſe paſſages they ſhould ſend ſome body elſe to command their horſe, that I had rather

be commanded by any other then have such commands only thrust on me but to affront me and bereave me of mine honor; when I first went out I found their horse in such disorder and mutiny, that I could hope to gaine but little honor; yet had they left it to my discretion I could scarce have avoided but I must have lost either my life or honor or both; so mine enemies had been revenged on me fully; but God would not give their malice that power over mine innocence; the Committee requested me after this to take the Government of the City on me, which was in great disorder for want of their pay ready to lay down their armes, disband and desert the City. Notwithstanding all these former affronts, to shew my greater fidelity to the publick, I allaid the mutinie, paid the foot souldiers and Officers their arreares, & put things speedily into an other order then they were formerly, to the content even of my greatest enemies; yet this continued not long; for the Committee being divided they cavill'd with me for obeying the Parliaments and their own Orders; at first I had an Order sent to search all Malignants houses for monies or plate; I hearing Colonel *Granthams* Steward had in his possession some monies and plate of Master *Saltmarshes*, then at *Newark*, and in arms against them, I caused his house to be searched, found his monie and plate, with his arms on the plate; the monie Col. *Grantham* owned as his (and was very angry if any body had cared for it) he would also have owned the plate as well, had not Master *Saltmarsh* his armes been on it; but what injustice had it been in me to have searched others houses, and let either Parliament men or Committee mens houses unsearched having so true intelligence; but I never was nor will be so unjust in my Command, or command an other to do that to others which I would not in like condition have done to my self; such men would have had no malignants goods indeed protected but by themselves only; there has bin sufficient experience what mischiefs such arbitrary self-ends have wrought, to this Nation I had an other order for the banishment of all Papists out of the City, which I performed, but it seems some of the Committee could not live without a Papist Doctor though there were others in the City, and against order, they would keep

keep the most dangerous of all the City within, who under pretence of riding into the Countrey gave the *Newarkers* intelligence of all our proceedings; I had imprison'd his man but a little before for comming as a Spie over the workes, and at unseasonable houres, I thought as much justice to let the rest return, as they to give him liberty to reside there, and protect him, contrary to the Order of Parliament expresly sent & delivered me by themselves. By these carriages it may be seen I would be no time-observer or flatterer, no not with my greatest Masters the Committee men to serve my own ends in unjustly pleasing them for so great a benefit as I might have expected to have accrued to me if I would have but temporized with their arbitrary humors; for what was it else to punish one, and protect another for the self same facts they were not pleased with such square and honest actions, and knowing I would never serve their corrupt interest they began to be weary of me, and cast about to be rid of me for one would serve their turnes better, and to this end they thought of calling in *Hotham* hearing he had some forces, and thinking they might be beneficiall towards the saving of their County which themselves had indeed by these miscarriages lost & might have hazarded the losse of *Yorkeshire* also; for they knew young *Hotham* a great plunderer, disobedient to the Lord *Fairfax* his Superiour, and they likewise had (as S. *Ed. Ascue* informed me) intercepted Letters of his going to the Queene, wherein they were asured of his falsness, yet maugre all these and the opposition of the well affected of the same Committee who it seems were the weaker part, the y voted Sir *Christopher Ray* to go to treat with him to bring him in with his forces to command in Chief, and my self to be under him, though I knew him, by some of the Committees own relation, false to the Parliament; so I must needs think either to joyne Traitor with him, or to be betrayed by him if I would not serve his or their ends; at his comming in all the honest party retired from the Committee, and my Lord of *Lincolne* whose Major I was, Sir *Anthony Kerby*, Master *Archer*, Master *Lister*, Master *Hatcher*, and all busines were wholly carried on by my Lord *Willowby*, who was but only the Cipher or shadow of Sir

Chriſtopher Ray, Sir *Edward Aſcue*, and Colonel *Grantham*. *Hotham* and his forces come in. The ſame day is to be noted, Sir *Chriſtopher Ray* for remembrance fell with his horſe, and, in the ſtreets broke his leg, for this good ſervice; thus when the beſt party were all gone, and I left alone in the hands of my enemies, and *Hotham* a knowne Traytor, I began to thinke how to quit them and the Government, but to get my pay firſt they owed me I was reſolved; to which end I moved them to have ſome of thoſe goods praiſed they had in their cuſtody of Malignants, by ſuch as themſelves ſhould appoint, which they yeelded unto. I ſent theſe goods by boat to *Boſton*, and Shipped them there for *London*, and ſoon after diſcovered my deſign to leave them, and requeſted they would forthwith ſend ſome of the Committee to take the keyes of the Government and Magazin which was occaſioned by theſe reaſons, all the beſt affected having left them at their cailing in of *Hotham*, who at his firſt entrance not only fell to plundering, but alſo took the main Guards from the City gates without my knowledge or conſent, being Governour, and marcht to *Grantham* under pretence of fighting with the enemy at *Grantham*, which no ſooner ſallyed forth upon them, but himſelf and the greateſt Committee man then with him, ran away, left the forces to the enemies mercy, who defeated them without any reſiſtance made; this and other the like occaſions cauſed me to leave them, and going toward *Boſton* called in at *Tatſall* to ſee the Earl of *Lincolne*, whoſe Major of horſe I was, and told him how things had paſſed, and my reſolutions; his Lordſhip from whom alwayes I had found much reſpect, was pleaſed to accompany me to *Boſton*; when we came there the Committee of *Lincolne*, which were then none but my Lord *Willoby*, Sir *Chriſtopher Ray*, Sir *Edward Aſcue*, and Colonel *Grantham*, the firſt but the ſhadow of the three others; theſe ſent to the Major of *Boſton* and Sir *Anthony Erby* to make ſtoppage of all my goods becauſe they alledged, under colour of buyiug thoſe goods valued at a hundred pounds, I had purloyned and imbezellled the worth of a thouſand pounds, here beginning the firſt of their open malice and ſlander. I to make it more apparently known and cleer this falſe aſperſion, requeſted my

Lord

Lord, the Major, & S. *Ant. Erby* to ſearch the ſhip, and if they found more then their own hand ſubſcribed, I would forfeit all the reſt; although theſe would not be ſo uncivill at the Committees bare information to make ſearch, yet at my requeſt they did, and found the falſity of their report, and certified it under their own hands, at that preſent affaires were like to go ill, which all the time I commanded in chief there was neither loſſe, diſgrace or plundering in the leaſt degree befell them more then that of *Grantham*; they were not of ſtrength enough indeed to offend or aſſault their enemy; therefore my advice was they ſhould only ſeek to defend themſelves till they could raiſe freſh ſupplies of men monies; had they taken this advice it had been wel for their Country and their honors which I offered them; the loſſe of which ſoone befell them through *Hothams* treacherie. If they had granted me the rents of Malignants eſtates in their Countie onely; I would have levied and maintained them ſix thouſand men, horſe and foot; but they ſleighted this my offer, as they did my ſelfe in every thing. I returned with the Earl of *Lincolne* from *Boſton* to his Caſtle, where himſelf alſo weighing the great diviſions among themſelves the ſway of the ill affected and the ruine would neceſſarily follow to the whole Countie, he reſolved to goe with me to *London*, I told him yet it would not be convenient; for though *Willobies* partie bore the ſway at preſent; yet if he went, it would much prejudice the affaires as they ſtood, becauſe moſt of the County looked on him as wellaffected to the publick. but his Lordſhip reſolution being fixed I could not divert him, ſo he took his journy towards *London*, and as we paſt through *Boſton* the Major with the whole Towns men made it a requeſt to me that I would be their Gouernour, which I refuſed, but they ſo inſtant, that they ſent a Committee after my Lord and me to *Spalding*, where through my Lord of *Lincolnes* requeſt I returned to *Boſton*, with intent if I could agree upon the tearmes, that I would accept of the Government; but at my returne I found them colder in their expreſſions, then of what the day before they were, the reaſon was that the Committee, my old foes at *Lincolne* who had got notice of theſe proceedings, ſent the Major and Townſmen

a Letter that by no meanes they ſhould accept of me for their Governour, ſo I came to *London* and acquainted the Comittee of of Lords and Commons of all the ſeverall paſſages that induced me to reſign my Commiſſion; they were all well ſatisfied and reſolved to give me ſpeedy employment; and my Lord *Say* being my Aſſiſter formerly, was very ſerious now againe for a new employment for me, & to that end he offered me the Government of *Jarnſey* or *Garſey* then void, and made me attend ſeverall days at the Committee for my diſpatch, and at laſt it was given before my noſe to *Ruſſell* & *Lidcotle*, ſo my L. *Say* with a cold complement told me that it was formerly promiſed them without his knowledge, though as I after underſtood the true reaſon was, theſe Gentlemen *Lincolne* Committee knowing that both my Lord *Say* and my Lord of *Lincolne* reſpected me very much, they to prevent which, and take my Lord *Say* clean off, informed my Lady of *Lincolne* that I was he alone that inticed my Lord to goe to *London* and from her companie, by theſe falſities incenſing her ſo far as to write her Father my Lord *Say* a Letter againſt me on no other grounds; yet it took what effect they deſired; for my Lord *Say* from that time wholly and on no other ground eſtranged himſelf from me.

I could doe no leſſe (underſtanding the truth of this and the generall diſſervice to the Parliament in their calling in *Hotham*, but after many requeſts againſt them) I ſet forth a declaration to the Parliament, the ſubſtance was of theſe paſſages formerly, that they betrayed their own Country by calling in of *Hotham* whom themſelves knew was falſe to the Parliament, as having intercepted Letters to aſſure them the ſame, which Sir *Edward Aſcue* and Sir *Chriſtopher Ray* told me in the Committee Chamber at *Lincolne*; this Declaration was read in the houſe; they with all their friends moved for my Commitment, thinking therby to hinder my proofes and take me off, and had without doubt obtained the effect they aimed at, but for ſome friends of mine of which Sir *H. Heyman* was the chiefeſt then, who moved it might be referred to a Committee, and I heard, before commitment of my adverſaries, which took effect and was preſſed for mainly, being referred

referred to a Committee, where S. *Henry Cholmly* was Chairman, the chief friend to the *Lincolne-shire* men, the *Kentish Gentlemen* to be of the Committee also, but note likewise my enemies, & those who I accused were to be of the Committee likewise, before whom summoned I appeared, made good my Declaration, waited halfe a year, most times could never get Sir *Henry Cholmly* to set, nor ever after to report the same to the House; thus wearied with delayes, and no hopes of Justice or redresse for my injuries, failing in my expectations as much as formerly; for the *Irish* businesse being reduced to extreame necessitie, I sought imployment of Sir *William Waller*; but these enemies having spies over me, to prevent my getting of imployment, rais'd all the scandals of me to Sir *William Waller*; onely to hinder my acceptance by him, which he afterward confessed, it fell out that S. *Mihael Levisey* was to raise a Regiment of Horse, he made his suit to the Committee that I might be his Major, it was his fortune to be under Sir *William Waller*; who saw my carriage such, as he publiquely confessed at *Lewis* before the Committee & many Officers of the Army the slanders and wrongfull injuries the Committee of Lincoln-shire had done me, and acknowledge it but meer malice in them, I'me sure he must confesse and has done it, that few or no Officers under his Command were more experienced forward or more diligent then my selfe to verified, which I have thought good to insert two of his own testimonies, one in English and another in Latin, the Contence wherof is as followeth.

This is to Certifie whomsoever these presents may concerne, That no Officer under my Command did with more seriousnesse apply himself faithfully to the service of King and Parliament, then Colonell Anthony Weldon *at that time Major of the* Kentish *horse, I being sorry any difference between him and S.* Mi. Levisey *should give him occasion to quitt his Command, which I so much desired he should continue for the publique service, approving his abilitie every way fit to serve them.*

Given under my hand and seale,
William Waller.

This

This originall Certificate the Committee of Lords and Commons, which gave me my passe to goe beyond seas, were pleased to keep; for what reason I could never guesse, unlesse they thought it would condemn themselves of ingratitude for their ill usage of me; but *Frost* their Secretary was pleased only to tell me it was lost, so brought this as follows in Latine,

Omnibus ad quos hæ literæ pervenientæ Cum præsentium exhibetur vir generosus et strenuus Anthonius Weldon, *postquam non ita pridem in executu mihi commisso primum ut vigiliarum, præfectus vigilantissimus post ut tribunus et Chiliarcha equitum fortissimus diu et quidem meruit, nunc patriæ calamitatis forsan pertæsus est nobis valedicere voluerit, eundem mero et merito et vero hoc testimonio honorandum duximus, quo dictum* Antonium Weldonum *sese quamdiu hic meruit ut decet militem strnuum et fortem æque ac vicum probum omnique virorum fortium amore dignum præstitisse asserimus adeo ut eum morari nobis cum quam extra adire malicecimus, eidem vero quæcunque eum terra vocabunt videbunque fausta et filicia omnia precamur dat. Londini pridie calendis Junij anno supra* 1645. Signed *William Waller*. My carriages all the while I was with them I leave to his relation, but had it been otherwise then very honorable, he denying me former imployment by the false Reports (as himself confess'd) of the *Lincolne-shire* Comittee, and having this prejudicate opinion of my unworthinesse, only by ther malicious relation, had he not seen and confessed the contrary, he would not have given such a testimony as he hath since often done by word of mouth, beside these his certificates which were no ways obtained by favour, a thing I ever scorn'd from any man in relation to my self, but the time I was under him there were some unkindnesses passed between S. *Michael Levesey* and my self, which wanted not help on each side to kindle those unkindnesses already begun, though for my own part I was ever innocent, as to this present ignorant on what ground they were begun; but the reasons on my part were these, his backwardnesse when Sir *William Waller* sent the Regiment on service he would neither fall on himselfe at *Sutton* nor permit me when

when I desired him, whereby the Regiment lost much repute in the whole Army, and the Country much glory; and my self being the only Souldier in the Regiment, might justly be jealous it might reflect on my honour in the judgment of those which knew me not: And this made me afterward (because the world should not think it my backwardness) fall on with my Horse at *Alton* Church-yard, in sight and view of the whole Army drawn in *Battalia*: a Service indeed something improper for Horse to do; but I saw a necessity, also my Carbines assisted, and the successe was good. After at *Arundel*, Sir *William* gave me the main Pass to maintain, and through whose hand most of the provisions for the Army must come, which might have suffered much, but for my diligence in executing from time to time the Generals Warrants: and those Kentish Gentlemen, the Deputy Lieutenants there present, might have starved but for my assisting them with provisions; for there was none to be had for money: all I obtained for my obedience, was but the name of a Plunderer. Whether Sir *Michael Levesey* jealous of my favour with the General, or taking it ill I would not neglect my other duties to wait on him, or whether because I would not plunder for him, that could do it too wel for himself, or what other reason I know not, but I perceived his discontent, yet took little notice thereof then, and the lesse, because I knew my self innocent. He wrote into *Kent* afterwards to go home when *Arundel* siege was done, and that I should stay out with my Troop, and have it put under Sir *Richard Greenvils* Regiment, then in agitation to be raised; so I should become a Captain from a Major; then when he saw that would not take, his Friends under-hand would willingly have had me to have been Adjutant-General to Sir *William Waller*, and would have engaged themselves to have rais'd me a Troop, and paid it constantly; but I answered, I had rather be Major still, then to accept of the other, though I was urg'd to it by Sir *William* himself: things passing thus, I was at last recall'd, and Sir *Michael* himself left with his Troop there: I brought them home (twenty Horse and Arms more then I carried out) for I was as zealous to advance the Service more then my own particular Interest, as more at

large yet may be manifested by a Letter wrote me by my Father to this purpose, That I might now raise me a fortune without the help of my friends; but my answer was, That I scorn'd it should for my part be said that I would raise my fortunes out of the ruines of my Country. I could wish more had been or would be of the same mind; publick affairs would not have such failings and great miscarriages as they have, which then I both knowing and foreseeing, was resolved to lay down my Commission, though not in that manner as it afterward fell out: For Sir *Michael Levesey* at our second Summons to go forth at *Alsford* fight, knew not how to shake me off, therefore got Sir *Henry Heyman* to move the Committee, that he might have the payment of my Troop, yet not taxing me in the least of any cozening the Troopers before, but as knowing I could not brook so great an injury, if I heard it; this my Lieutenant hearing, came and told me that night, after I had received Orders to march; I presently wrote a civil Letter to Sir *Henry Heyman* (who was his sole friend and promoter in all these transactions, yet my only friend against the *Lincoln-shire* Committee, and would have still been, but in all likelihood, he having a stricter tie in friendship to S. *Michael*, and a nearer relation as being his brother Deputy-Lieutenant, and therefore the more fit to befriend him then my self,) he answered not my Letter himself, but got my Father to answer it in this manner:

ANTHONY, *I hear you conceive you have received an affront from some of the Committee, I charge you tell me what it is, and from whom; and howsoever, if any such thing were, it befits not you to question those who are your paymasters and Commanders: If you like not the employment, you may leave it when you list, the Country cannot want a Commander so soon as you leave the employment.*

What an arbitrary Letter this was, that right or wrong, Paymasters and Chiefs are not to be questioned? they will indeed limit others, yet will be at pleasure themselves; whether this were any satisfaction to me, the Reader may judg, or fit to be sent me, when mine was modest; and to know the reasons only of such a strange motion, why he should pay my Troop,

Troop more then any other in the Regiment, and when especially the Country had entrusted me already with a months pay, that I must have return'd it to him, as if I would have cheated the Souldier, or knew not how to manage it; had there bin any ground of complaint against me, there had bin some colour for it: This Letter of mine to Sir *Henry*, whose answer I expected, being it was to none but him, (though put on by Sir *Michael Levesey* to make this motion:) yet Sir *Henry Heymans* pleasure was not only thus without any ground to affront me, but to set my Father and my self at variance by this means; yet I shunned it as much as possibly might be, to that end I would not take it as from my Father, but as from the Generall Committees sense then assembled, whereof he was Chairman, and so I returned this generall answer, That I would lay down my Commission so soon as I came to *Kingston*, I being then on my march thither-ward, said that they should appoint some body else in my place: the Committee sent two of the Deputy-Lieutenants to *Kingston*, to know if I held my resolution; but you must note Sir *Michael Levisey*, who underhand had wrought this plot against me, was one of them, who in my absence (I being sent for by the Generall) hearing the Regiment was forthwith to march on present service, I having sent Sir *Michael* the order of the Generall to that end, he for fear I would have recanted the laying down of my Commission, called the Regiment into the field, and there invited & requested in my absence both Officers & Souldiers, that if I should resolve to march with them, then they should vote, no Major *Weldon*: I comming to *Kingston*, found them in the field, some of my own telling me what had thus passed; then came Sir *Michael* himself, and Captain *Skinner*, who asked my resolution, after this was so plotted already, but not thinking I had as yet had notice hereof; besides in my absence he had caus'd Guards to be set round the Quarter, to keep my Troopers, for fear as they pretended my Troopers would have disbanded themselves, as they might well have expected on this carriage thus treacherously against me: I to prevent mutiny, and looking on the generall, more then my private interest

reſt or reveſge, went to the General preſenting him my Commiſſion and demanding withall juſtice from him according to Martiall Law, in caſe of ſuch mutinies, and if I had not been moderate the Regiment had broken at this very action ſo the ſervice had been much prejudiced thereby, but Sir *William* as knowing this was armed to affront him, becauſe there had been ſome diſcourtebus paſſages between Sir *Michael Levifey* and him, likewiſe ſome diſtate between ſome of the other Deputy Lieutenants and himſelfe ſince *Arundel* ſiege, he told me therfore he was unwilling to give any farther occaſion of breach, wherefore deſired me to keep my Commiſſion, or if I would not, to repaire to the Deputie Lieutenants of *Kent* for redreſs, withall asked me whom I thought fitteſt in the whole Regiment to execute the Majors place; I replyed *I* knew none more capable then Captaine *Sidaſhe* then the Colonels Capaine Lieutenant, and I deſired I might carry him Commiſſion to that end which I did, reſigned him my Troope and the monthes pay of theirs I had then in my hands, I referre to the ſaid Major *Sydaſcu* the paines I tooke to keep them from diſbanding, becauſe they were moſt Londoners which came meerly for love of me, though the horſes were the Counties; I returned into *Kent* informed them of all theſe carriages demanded Juſtice againſt S. *Michael* who by this carriage indeavoured to break the Regiment had not my moderacy prevented it; all the Juſtice I had they acknowledged my diſcretion in the carriage, and thanked me for it: this not ſatisfying my honor I repair'd to my Lord of *Eſſex* then at *London*, complained to him and demanded Juſtice but found none nor hopes of any, yet was I ſo little diſcouraged I went with 6 horſe well armed into the field on my owne charge, and the reaſon that induced me to this was to take away all ground of ſuſpicion which in ſuch caſes might have reflected on my honor, as laying downe my charge juſt going on ſervice; then my reſolution was that Juſtice denied me where I ought to have had right, or at leaſt the matter legally head, gave me a juſt reaſon to take it if I could by my ſword, as in ſuch caſes amongſt martiall men, duels may be held in my opinion lawfull if in any wiſe when Juſtice is legally denyed, notwithſtanding articles of the

Lord

Lord Generall made to the same intent, but I found them but mock articles, or at least so tyranically arbitrary that they should but extend to whom, where, and when they please, though they ought to be open, free, and to the benefit of all Souldiers or Commanders of what qualitie soever equally administred; being with Sir *William Waller*, I sent Sir *Michael Levisey* a Challenge, but instead of answering he complained to the Deputy Lieutenants, which I hearing though I had just reason to know he had made a party against me, yet I trusting to my owne innocency as knowing justly that I had given none of them the least occasion of offence, unlesse by my honorable carriages, which they but a little before themselves acknowledged, and gave me publique thanks at the Committee, with a gratuity over and above my pay due, by which it may be seen the suddain variableness of serving many Masters if all cannot be pleased, as is unpossible he were as good please none, a man shall be sure he shall not want scorne and contempt with neglects, which I may justly say and the Reader may see by this Declaration, hath been my reward; when I heard Sir *Michael Leviseys* complaints came to their eare, though I had clearely quitted the County and received all my arreares and had nothing more to doe with that Committee nor its jurisdiction, yet I went downe from *LONDON* to them as being willing to cast my selfe into their armes, both as well to make good what I had done as also to hope for justice against Sir *Michael Levisey*, being he had referred himselfe to them, thinking they had not as yet discharged my arreares, and I was my self by this occasion as yet under their power, but when I presented my self, I had scarce spoke ten words, and that only concerning the difference between S. *Michael* and my self as modestly as might be, but Sir *Henry Heyman* told me I wanted manners, I replyed I had been farther to seek it then any there, Captaine *Westrow* said my speech was insolent, I replyed it was their ignorance thus to use me, not my insolence; Captaine *Hunt* motioned that I might be committed, I told them they durst do no more then they had power to do, which I feared not, here it may be plainely seen a party, and such as were known of Sir *Michaels* faction spake

thus

thus unkindly to take me off from a reference to them; for no man can think me so injurious to my self as to incense those I offered to referre my self unto, with hopes to obtain justice, which was all I sued for; but they knowing both this and other just complaints against him by his Cornet and the Surrey men, feared if they should give me any countenance, they must necessarily bring his name and honor in question, being a linke of their Chain, and on the publick stage too; I replyed to my fierce Gentlemen I now declined my resolution of referring my self to them, since I saw such a party made and declar'd against me before hand; so returned to London, only wrote them a letter which they complained of to the Committee of Examinations or Spanish Inquisition, such were the actions in that Committee so properly I may stile them, Sir *Henry Heyman* there being my Judg and Prosecutor, when the lamb is in the wolfes paw what he can expect you may guesse; they committed me to Ely house, would never hear me nor my cause nor yet take bail, nor let me out, still right or wong I must make my peace with the Deputie Lieutenants of Kent, their complaint was I had abused them all, when there was not above seven of thtescore there, nor but three of these seven which first abused me, and in my owne vindication, I Justly retorted on them what I did speak, and the rest of the Committee as they afterward avouched, never knew of this complaint, nor prosecution against me; many Journeys I had down, found still a packt Committee who knew before hand of my comming down, they would accept of no conditions, nor submitment, unlesse I would include Sir *Michael Levesy* therein which I would never do, so I had my confinement within London: and thus withouts hopes of release, they desired to be quit of me, yet on their own termes at the Committee of Examinations, where Sir *Hen. Heyman* would alwayes be sure to have all my *Lincolne-shire* back friends there, and many other things of the cruellest injustice and arbitrary power passed at the said Committee, which I omit being too tedious to relate and not materiall to me. I petitioned the House as the highest appeal for Justice, and gave in sixteen or twenty Articles against Sir *Michael Levesy*, all concerning grosse offences done

to

to the publick, all I could doe was to get it referred only to a Committee where Master *Tate* was Chaire-man, there flockt also Sir *Henry Heyman* and *Westrow* and some of the *Lincolnshire-men*, who kept me off from a hearing, made me attend a yeare almost, contin'd all this while, no Justice, no hearing, no dispatch: I sold in this space many houses in *Covent Garden* to attend here, kept from all imployments at home or abroad: yet these complaints of mine were ever for the publick wrongs and not my private, having so much sence of honor as I disdain to seek redresse of any Court of Judicature whatever, in my own particular, whilst I am a martial man & have the use of my hand and sword; but whilst things passed thus, I mean by this Arbitrary usage the Parliament new moulded their Army from corrupt men and cowards as they pretended; and that very Committee who had the hearing and report of my businesse, had the new modeling refer'd to them, who notwithstanding all my accusations unheard, and Sir *William Waller* accusing him also, (long after this difference hapned) for running away at *Cropredy* bridg, and his disobedience which occasioned that losse, and causing also his men and himselfe to mutiny, yet for all this that the same Committee should chuse him one of the new modell Colonels, which I no sooner hearing, and seeing no redresse could be had possibly, nor he brought to Justice, I posted him for a Mutineer and a Coward, and this to discharge my conscience; For, the oath forc'd on me to discover and help bring to condign punishment any such enemies to the Parliament; this was forc'd on me to take at the head of my own Troop, and on my Troopers to doe the like also, and in perfuance see how my self was punished. Secondly to vindicate my own honor least the world should suppose those accusations against him were false, that I was thus disgraced and he promoted, though I could never to this hour be heard nor my witnesses could ever get to be examined: this posting of him was taken as an hainous affront done to the whole house, he being a member thereof, they referred it to my old Committee of Examinations who without hearing me as their usuall course was, voted it a Libel, although it was subscribed with my

my own hand, and I offered my life for the justification thereof: they censured me to *Newgate* a prisoner *durante placito*, though I satisfied the House I did it no ways to affront them; I could never yet be permitted a fair hearing, or legall proceeding: a submission I must make, and such a one I did make, and sent it Mr. *Knightley* then Chairman; which was this as follows: *Good Lord, deliver me from Sword, Pestilence and Famine, and all Committees; Good Lord, I beseech thee deliver me.* For *I* am sure they have been the bane and chief disturbance of the Kingdom, as I told them, and it will be found so: if ever a time come their actions may be sifted, and weighed in the balance with Justice, they will be found too light; more especially this Committee, the mentioning of whose actions in particular I shall omit, till I write more at large of the abuses of Committees. Some in the House of the same Committee who find themselves guilty, to see these their Arbitrary actions laid open to the Publick view, may chance move their Fellows to vote this false and scandalous, and not admit legally any proof for the making it good: but were they pleased to pass an Edict, That all men may freely bring in their Complaints against that Committee, if as foul actions have not been done there as in the corruptest Courts, *I'll* suffer for it any censure or punishment: but I did so plague that Committee, and Mr. *Corbets* Worship, that they would gladly have been rid of me: among the rest they had the conscience to propose that I should go beyond Sea in exile, and never to return til the Parliaments leave: This was a pretty invention to quit arrears; for be sure they would scarce have consented I should have returned in haste to receive my Arrears, which I expect not in other manner, but as I see others who have serv'd them faithfully. Now let the Reader seriously observe these proceedings, and then let him tell me, whether they are legall, or arbitrary and tyrannicall. I being in *Newgate* a month, did not beleeve or hope to get out: I therefore printed a Declaration, wherein I did not spare them; on the reading whereof finding it seems their Consciences troubled them, they released me, but confin'd me within the City. I still pressing all I could for Justice, but never could obtain the least part thereof,

thereof, but injustice enough, if I may say it without offence to my great Masters. I sought what I could (being necessitated) for employment in *Ireland*, or here, but could get none, but yet such were employed that could not the least pretend thereto in respect of my self; I sought to have liberty to carry prisoners for *Flanders* or *France*, as others had; no not on the same conditions; yet such as were against them could and did; nay the jest was, whiles I was confin'd, and so kept by one Committee, the other Committee of both Kingdoms gave me at the same instant this discharge, passe, and certificate as followes thus Englished,

To all that see these presents health. It being that this Gentleman Anthony Weldon Colonel, *desiring to goe beyond seas after having served in our wars to gaine more experience amongst strangers, We in the name of the Parliament of Great* Britaine *have thought fit to give him this pass and testimony, that during the imployment he had in the Armies, first as Major of a Regiment of horse, and afterwards a Colonell, he carried himself as we are informed as a Gentleman of honor, and a good Souldier; We therefore recommend him, and intreate all Princes, States, Governours, and ministers, each according to their qualitie where he shall passe, to suffer him to passe and repasse freely with his servants and clothes, without giving him or suffering to be given him any hinderance, but rather to shew him all favour for the advancement of his voyage; in so doing they shall invite the said Parliament to render them the like. In the name and by Order of whom we have signed these presents, at* Westminster *the last of* May, 1645.

Signed,

Essex, Manchester, Warwick,

Gilbert Gerard, Pierpoint, Vane, Waller.

Let now any judge the justnesse; whilst one Committee kept me confined, the other gave me this Certificate; which con-

demn'd their own actions and clear'd me; yet as both before and after, I always profered them to serve them on all occasions, went to the Generall when he first received his Commission, offer'd my self though not accepted, went to *Winsor* afterwards, did the like; went to the *Irish* Committee, did the like; but no imployment nor ground or reason for refusing my offers; had it been or could yet be said I ever in the least betrayed my trust, or was backward or debauch'd, from all which I have been as free all my my life as any man whatever; nor was I ever questioned in the least manner; only the *Sussex* men taxt me for plundering, when I never exceeded the Generals warrant, and I went to all their grand Committees in *Sussex*, and publickly declared that I was to leave the Country within one month, and if any thing could be laid to my charge I was ready to answer and make ful satisfaction before my departure from thence; This themselves acknowledged; besides I sent them a letter in the highest language that possibly might be to provoke them the more, and on the difference between Sir *Michael Levisey* and my self; Sir *Henry Heyman* did not only prosecute me as aforesaid, but sent into *Sussex*, if they could charge me with any thing, my skin should pay for it; but no charge ever came as yet against me, as I brought one against him as in my Printed Articles may be seen, for taking mony of Sir *Michael Levisey* and was for this his chiefest Pillar for the *Sussex* of businesse Colonel *Downes* was a maine stickler; could he have got any thing against me, which to this day was never produces indeed I could expect as little favour from him as from any, by reason I quartered a Troope of Dragoons at his house being a Parliament man; the reason was that he was of great eminency and in the Country, but fled away twice by night at the very noyse of the enemies comming into the County, so not only disgrac'd the cause, robbed his Colonelship of its honor, and disheartned the Country much when they saw such Leaders and prime men leave them in the Lirch; and another reason of his malice against me was that he had stor'd up in *Pulbery* my quarters, thirty or more quarters of malt seized from Malignants, which he pretended he bought

for

for the wants of the Army, and caused to be brewed etc and sent into the Army at *Arundell*; Had this or any other of my actions been unjustifiable, why was I never legally questioned? they onely in malice laid the imputation of plunderer on me, but brought no particulars, but in generall because I was from time to time obedient to the Generals warrant, and in no wise exceeded the same; if I had refused it, I might justly have deserved the Military censure of disobedience; the reason why the Kentish Gentlemen were against me, was, because many of the Captains under my Command were Deputy Lieutenants of *Kent*, and they would gladly have had the honor & profit, but they thought me over-strict in point of command, though I never was more severe then necessary, and told them when they were at home I would obey them as Deputy lieutenants, but they abroad under my Command must obey me as their superiour; and certainly had I done amisse, I should have legally heard it; I having gained so many enemies for my just conscience discharging my duty; and I dare boldly say, whilst I was with them, never Regiment was kept in better order or did lesse mischief; I defie the greatest of my foes to averre the contrary; herein I merited noughs because I did but what my duty obliged me for my Countries good, the States, and my own honor; but by this discourse it may be seen that I had a great party in the house against me of the *Lincolnshire*, of the *Kentish* and *Sussex* Committee, besides the disrespect I justly shewed to that extrajudiciall Committee of Examinations wholly engulfed the subjects priviledge by their proceedings; I appeal'd to the whole, but could never get my petition read, and indeed how could I have expected redresse against so great a party as I had against me, and the only reasons why I have here, and I hope may satisfie and defie the worst of all these or any in their behalf to disprove the least; when I sought for justice, I had all these to oppose me when for imployment they were all opposite, and what slanders they rais'd on me behind my back, as I know not, so I weigh not; but none of them ever durst nor dare to this day say any thing to my face, or in a legall way, it may be seen, the reason why I am so little regarded, because I am no time-observer, or parasite, nor will

I be, to gain the best imployment the State hath in their power to dispose of. I never was cashiered, but threw up my imployments, though courted to hold them, as you have seen; but then I must have said what they said, or done what they did; and I never intended to sell my honour or conscience at any rate: for were all my thoughts written in my fore-hand for each vulgar view, there would no treachery be found.

But seeing my self so mainly opposed, and could have neither Justice nor Employment for these reasons forementioned, (defying the whole to give any other then these) I sued to the Committee of prisoners, where Mr. *Knightley* was Chairman; and seeing he granted the liberty to all other men to transport prisoners, why I alone was denyed, I would gladly he could give a reason: sure he could not bear such malice towards me, but by the instigation of others. Had he not given to all, I should not have demanded it. So that I was forced to accept of the Majors place to Colonel *Pudsey* for *Flanders*, where I have been almost three yeers absent; where my carriage was very well lik'd of at Court. But I was not free from misfortune there: which befell in this sort.

I had not been there a year, but by reason the Lord of *Norwich* had done the King of *Spain* no mean Service between the Hollanders and his Majesty towards the Peace, to gratifie him, he made his Son there General of the English Nation; which he had no reason to refuse, and the English there as little reason to admit of, because they must lessen and lose their priviledge for his Title: for all the English are *Tertios*, and not Regiments, and are not by their Articles or ancient priviledge to admit of any but a Master *de Campo* Generall, who commands all Nations: and he that hath not that Authority or Title, cannot properly command any one Nation either of the Spaniards, Italians, Hollanders, Irish, English, Burgundians, or Walloons; the Germans being in that Service commanded by Colonel Generals. Now *Ansel*, and *Pudsey*, and *Nelson* admitting of Generall *Goring* as their Generall, were not only subject to him, but also the Master *de Campo* Generall, which made all the Spanish Court laugh at them. Now I commanding Colonel *Cobs Tertia*, found there would be a differ-

difference, First, by reason he was an enemy to the State here, we going over with their consent, he coming there against their wils, which could not but be taken ill. Secondly, what hope could any have of love and respect there, when there had been such a deadly feud here? we of the contrary party to come under him there unreconciled; more especially my self, who had had some former difference with him; Besides my Brothers opposition of his Forces and him at *Taunton*: which reasons made me most justly oppose. But ere I did this, I went to him, offered him to leave the Regiment for so much as would carry me for *England*: he engaged himself for 500 Crowns; Sir *Nicholas Crisp* was witness when this bargain was made: which I onely did to shun that contest which I saw must necessarily follow. I sent to him for the money: He answered, when he had done his own businesse: which (for all that I know) might not have been till doom-day. But his businesse being in agitation in *England*, he thus put me off, because he neither durst nor would employ me there, suspecting I had served the Parliament; nor yet let me go for *England*, for fear I should discover and hinder his designes here, which were afoot: and also to quit him of his Engagement, he either had not wherewithall, or would not for the reasons fore-mentioned; so I sent him a Letter to presse him. He having this subject to work on, goes to the Judge, tels him I had sent him a Challenge. The Judge relying on his word, without any further knowledge of the Cause (for he understood not a word of English but what and how he told him,) so I was sent to prison for a Challenge, it being there criminall to send a Challenge. Thus I being committed, and no further Charge come against me, I pressed him by way of Justice; who came as unwittingly to answer, as a bear to the stake, lest his drift should be found out, which was by this means to keep me from going for *England*, or opposing him there. At last he made his Charge that I would goe for *England*, and hinder his Leavies, and that I had disobeyed him, and the like, and that I had sent many Challenges. To which I answered, That since I was reform'd, none could hinder my going for *England*. For it is to be noted, after he had thus by false suggestion of

a challenge sent him, got me Imprison'd; he then denyed it to be a Challenge, but a scandalous Letter; so that it was no longer criminall then, but civill; and no Officer can be there imprisoned for any civill matters what-ever. I answered, I was not under his Command, nor ever had any order from Court to obey him; and he had no pretence over me or the Regiment, he kept thus Illegllay in, nor could I come out on bail, which was never refused to any before: but such friends did he make, telling them, that if they let me go, I would do much hurt both to the Kings Service and theirs, because I had always served the Parliament, and had many eminent friends there; which they had droven so far, as it must come to Judgment: Then the Judges result was, It was fit to keep me in for matter of State. Four months I thus lay, when this answer was given, all justice was secluded; the Judg himself told my Counsel I was unjustly prosecuted, and for malice. His Highnesse wrote me two Letters by his Secretary, that I should agree with General *Goring*, or he would nor give me my Pass. But I refused utterly, and return'd him this Answer, that I begged no favour, but the worst of punishments, if I had transgressed the Law in the least manner, nor would I beg any of his Highness, if I had offended. When the Kentish business was over, and *Colchester* besieged, then I was let forth and confined the Citie, the Judges own conscience being unsatisfied with this procedure. But General *Goring* no sooner heard that I was to be enlarged, but he sent the Judge a Letter, which by chance I intercepted, and have here thought fit to insert, that it may give the truth of the Story, for whose cause I suffered thus.

Sir, *Having understood that the Major* Weldon *hopes to have his libertie without any acknowledgment of his fault: I would intreat you to oblige him to give some assurance that he shall not seek to prejudice the Levies of his Majestie of* England; *and that he make me some submission for having lost his respect to me his Superiour; and that he shall acknowledge his fault, to have sent divers Challenges under his hand, contrary to the Edict of the Coun-*

ery. In this you will very much oblige (since the service of his Majesty and my honour is interessed therein)

I am Sir,

Your thrice humble Servant

Sunday the 15 of March, 1648.

GEORGE GORING.

The Judges Sentence hereon was that I should make oath not to hinder any Levies General *Goring* should make in *England*. And concerning the Challenges mentioned, and the submission required, I must answer to the same by my Councel within three days after my enlargement, which was on Saturday. Had I not been out ere this Decree of the Judges had come, 'tis like I might have staid in till this time; for I would have perished there, before I would have took such an Oath, and so doubtless I might ere I should have had relief from the Parliament; for while I was there imprisoned, I sent oft to the Houses my Petitions, but could have no redress: I sent to all my Friends, and sent them notice of their designes, but could have no relief: though it may be sufficiently seen by this Letter, (the original whereof I have) that I suffered meerly for their Cause, and for my fidelity to them, and for no miscarriage there: and that *Goring* sought my utter ruine; for twice severally, and on severall occasions General *Goring* himself acknowledged, that no Gentleman could have a more honourable character then the Prince of *Lixim* gave to him of me at his first coming. Then afterwards coming to see the Generals Quarters at the Siege of *Commin*, the very words that General *Goring* used to me, were these? *Sir, I am glad there was so gallant a man of our Nation to maintain their Honour; for such a character has the General given of your person.* Yet all this his own confession could win nothing. The Processe which I have here in French between him and my self, will farther satisfie any more curious, that my sufferance was for the Parliament: for I proved in the said Process, that the Letter I sent him was neither Challenge, nor insolent, nor that he had or could have any command of me. And why

why did he not presse for judgment when it was ripe, but that he knew it was so evident it must have gon against him? I pressed as much as might be, but could never attain to it, because his purse and favour at Court kept me off; who in their own prerogative must have crushed and destroyed me too: for in opposing him, though justly, yet it was to annihilate or withstand that power they gave, though wrongfully, to destroy the priviledge of the Nation in that Service. Why had he not the command of the *Irish*? he sought it, but they refused. So did *Norris*, and had he lived, would never have admitted them: and I had as little reason: yet it came not so far; for I never received the least order to obey him: And the Spanish Master *de Campo* sent me word, had I been of their Religion, they would all have joyned with me to oppose him, lest this might be a Precedent for them to lose their Priviledges. But not long after General *Goring* found this Title of his was but a shadow only, a Spanish bravado. And now I leave it to the judgment of all men, whether the Parliament of *England*, to whom I appealed, had not in honour been bound to relieve me: but I could get no more redress for this, then all the rest of my sufferings.

I thought good to insert here my Generals Pass I was under all the while I was in that Service: who, I am sure, would not have suffered me to have received this hard measure for my faithfulness, but that he himself was unhappily confined; he may curse our Nation for the authors of his ruine, for their base miscarriage at the *Basse*, (my self a meer stranger till my actions made him take so much notice of me, and make me his Comrade, to the no small envie of our Nation.) His Certificate is thus Englished.

Lord *Esteaven* of *Gamara* and *Contarez*, Knight of the Order of St. *James*, and General of the Artillery in the Low Country against the Army of *FRANCE*.

WE certifie by these presents, that Sergeant Major Weldon *comported himself as a Cavalier of honour all the while he hath been with us, and more particularly at the Siege*

of

of Comins, *where he hath testified his great Courage, and that he was a brave Souldier; above all, when we gave order to occupie the Counterscarp, where we have seen him long unsheltered, making his Souldiers work, to the great danger of his life, he alone of all the major Officers that assisted to this action to the end he should serve himself of this where he pleases, we have given him this Certificate under our seale of armes, at* Bruges, *the seventh of* March, 1648.

Signed By *Estevan* Lord of *Gamarah*.

If it be my fortune alone to suffer for my faithfull service, it is my fate, though I never was puffed up with vain-glory or pride; for I have never done more then in honor & conscience I was obliged to do, I have the Passe of his Highnesse and a second Comission both much to my advantage; but that I am not so good a Translator out of the *Spanish* tongue, otherwise for clearer satisfaction I would also have inserted them.

I hearing of many prisoners the Parliament had in their custody, and the report being *Flanders* and *Holland* that they sold them like horses in *Smithfield*; I hastened over and met with many ships by the way fraught with this marchandize to the Barbadoes, bought by the merchant, and as *I* am creedibly informed some ships were to goe for *Ireland* with them, but mistook their way, so went to *Spaine* and *Venice*. I beleeve the State had no benefit thereby; yet it being absolutely put upon them, and believed as well in forraign parts as by some at home, and therefore it would do well, and *I* could wish they would cleer their own honors in searching how they have been abused in this nature by such as they have entrusted, or else they will make themselves accessory to these false accusations, and most men will be confirmed they are true; and the *Scots* cannot take it well, but may render *lex talionis* if ever occasion present it self to them; I shall I doubt not but incense some who have hand in these actions; yet I neither care, nor so long as I do it no ways in malice to any particular person, but soly for the honor and benefit of the publick, however misconstrued, as it may be most of other actions have; being come to *Lon-*

don I found such as I wondred at to see them obtaine Commissions for 1000 a peece who were but Captains under my command in *Flanders*, who when service was in the Summer time could be stil absent, only there for the benefit of their Winter quarters, I found others who offered to sell me a thousand men, though neither the one nor the other knew how to dispose of these thousands they had so strangly obtained, so that though they had obtained these orders the men were a burthen to the Country; and I went to Colonell *More* for some of these prisoners having made conditions with my Lord *Craven* for *Venice*, who treated with me in the behalf of Prince *Philip*, but I could have none; word was they were all disposed of, and so they were for such as trucked away or sould, went home again into their own Country. I knowing what dishonour and inconvenience had accrued to the State by letting of prisoners go in that careless manner, made a Remonstrance to the Parliament at the end whereof I desired leave to levy one thousand or fifteen-hundred prisoners volunteers, or disbanded supernumenaries; they were pleased to refer it to the Committee for prisoners, where Colonel *Moor* had the Chair, who pitied my long attendance, but this was all I had; for to this hour I could never get the said Gentleman to sit, nor the Remonstrance to be seen, only he read it, and belike perceiving something therein touching his copy-hold, as concerning the sale of prisoners, which indeed was something improper to make any man judge in his own cause; for if I had averr'd my knowledge, I must give my selfe the lye in not making good the same, which concerned the publick more then my private interest; and in this respect he did me a courtesie against his will; but thus being driven off by him, I received Letters from my Lord *Craven* the *Venetian* Embassadour faild in monies, which I had likewise no reason to be sorry for; since I must by this meanes have failed in my undertaking; The Army in this interim drawing to the Citie and believing they should be opposed invited all to be protested that should repair to them: I went as I had formerly done to his Excellency, presented my service for imployment, I found complements only and hopeful promises; I told him how I was used and requested his assistance; he referr'd

ferr'd me to the Committee for the Army, who seeing my sufferings and the Justice of my demand, wrote this ensuing Letter in my behalfe to the Speaker to present the House.

Sir, Colonel Anthony Weldon *having given testimony of his fidelity to the Parliament by his former services to the State, as by his late for you by Generall* Goring *in* Flanders, *and his proffers from time to time either to serve in this Army under my command, or to go for* Ireland; *but there being no occasion at present for either, he requesteth to have Liberty by Order from the House of Commons to levye one Regement of fifteen hundred Voluntiers prisoners or disbanded supernuminaries, and to transport the same to such forraign parts as are in amitie with the Parliament, and because he cannot capitulate without assurance to be permitted the said levies which I think very reasonable and do recommend the same to your considerations that he may have forthwith Order granted him on passing his honor, or giving security that neither he nor any of the said forces shall turn against the Parliament, being at this present all I have to trouble you withall, I rest,*

Your humble Servant

Queen-street, Feb. 6. 1648. Tho Fairfax.

I could never have this Letter read, therefore I was forced after long attendance, to print this Petition as follows here,

To the Honorable Representative assembled in Parliament,

The humble Petition of Col. *Anthony Weldon.*

Sheweth,

That your Petitioner having from time to time since the beginning of this Parliament, both begun and persevered in the Common interest, constantly laying aside all his own private, notwithstanding many disheartnings, besides two hundred pounds arrears due to him these eight yeares for his service in Ireland *with* 200l. *more disburst of his own for his souldiers which must else have perished for want of their pay, his cruel sufferance and Commitment by* Ormond *for declaring himself and adhering to the Parliamen, loosing both place and goods for these*

reasons only, and for giving the Houses intelligence of plots against them and their interest, his losse of imployment in Lincoln-shire *for refusing to admit* Hotham, *because a Traytor to the Parliament, which your Petitioner first discovered to them, his late four months imprisonment in* Flanders *by the State there through the information and prosecution of Generall* Goring, *for your Petitioners adhering and giving notice to the Houses of his designs there against him, his constant proffers at all times to serve the Parliament, as the Generals Letter avoucheth to the House written in your Petitioners behalf, which he could never yet obtain to be read: his eighteen yeares services in forraign parts, with certificate of his honorable deportments there, as likewise sundry of their own Certificats given your Petitioner since these Wars at home, which he can produce, all which might give him just hopes and expectation for employment for his fidelity as well as his abilities in his profession, being both by the Parliament known and approved of: Lastly, the constant great and good services of his whole Family rendred the Parliament, not one ever against the Common interest; all which premisses taken into consideration, your Petitioner prayeth he may no longer be neglected now occasion serves, but that with the first he may be imployed either here or in* Ireland, *or have his arrears forementioned speedily payd, he being no longer able to subsist, already ruin'd by the neglect instead of rewards, that so your Petitioner may not be forced of necessity for his livelihood to seek imployment any where to the dislike of the Parliament; or if the sence of these his sufferings may not procure him imployment here, he requesteth leave to capitulate with some forraign Prince or State in amitie with this Commonwealth to his best advantage, that he may have liberty to levie and transport one regiment of 1500 Voluntiers beyond seas, he engaging his honor that neither himself nor any forces levied by him shall act any thing to the prejudice of this Commonwealth, and he as duty shall pray.*

These Petitions were given to each Member of the House, to the Lord Generall and Councell of Warre and to the Councell of State, from the House or Councell of Warre, I could

could neither receive the Juſtice or civility of a hearing or anſwer; from the Councel of State it being moved once by Sir *Henry Vane*, without anſwer being moved by my Lord Preſident oft, at laſt they denyed to grant me levies, and anſwer'd nought as to my imployment or my arrears. I confeſſe I found more Juſtice, charity, and civill favours from him, then in all the reſt together or apart. In the moſt Tyrannique Governments, requeſts were ever heard, and anſwered with redreſſe; but in this State neither one nor another, unleſſe a Lady in the procurement of many friends may chance to get the favour of a Petition read; but favour is not Juſtice, nor ſelfe ends no charity. I would I could once ſee juſtice for juſtice ſake, or charity for charities ſake exerciſed; I ſhould then eaſily beleeve a Reformation were really intended; but when I ſee Committes proceed neither by the rules of Judicature nor preſidents, but according to their bare wills, what ſhall I think though not convenient at this preſent to write my opinion? yet I dare ſpeak it to any whatſoever, when Martiall Law ſhall exerciſe authority over civil perſons not under their verge, when the civill power ſhall yeeld up their right to Martiall diſcipline, the conſequence can be but dangerous and ſad to this Nation to whom freedom is pretended, though in the beginning of bondage, which is but too evident whilſt I thus a ſpectator of other mens miſeries, am a ſad ſpectacle of my owne to others. I heard by chance of the *Turkiſh Alchoran* a printing it ſeems, though long licenced by their own authority, and I wonder ſo many religious Clergy men none would hinder, whoſe duty it was properly, I being as well bound in conſcience as they to the conſervation of the Parliaments honour who muſt ſuffer as well as Gods glory in the permiſſion of ſuch blaſphemy as ſhould under their protection have its rice to their juſt ſcorn in the opinions of all other Chriſtians; when I heard it was ready to come forth, I petitioned the Houſe to have it burnt; for I thought it very ſtrange a Law ſhould be againſt the ſpeaker of blaſphemies, and none againſt blaſpemie, printed by authority; it was ſtope upon my petition, and referr'd to the Councell of State, how they have proceeded herein I know not, nor look further after it; by reaſon

I saw my self much envied even by this action so innocent: many would have had it out to have rendred the Parliament more odious in their actions; many thinking, if it were tolerated, they could not then deny any Christian doctrine for shame: but amongst the rest, I most of all wondered why Mr. *Peters* should use this Speech which follows, in the presence of many in the Lobby, *I wonder thou keepest a quoil in the hindrance of the coming forth of the* Alchoran, *no new thing here; and in his reason it should be permitted:* But gave no other reason. When I followed it at the Councel of State, I received this incouragement of *Frost* their Secretary, that *I was too troublesom*: for which, had I thought him worth the labour, I should have made so bold as to break his cockscomb, to let his untutor'd manners out. In the prosecution I spent my one moneys and time for Gods glory, and the good of the Common-wealth, and no interest of mine own; and surely I deserved not so ill a reward: Had I complain'd, I expected the same redress I had all along already, seeing the lamentable cries of many attending, and had so done for many years, and among others, many sufferers for their sakes, yet could never be heard: I in conscience bound, moved the House by Petition, gave it to the Speaker, who read it; I thought fit to insert it here, as follows:

To the Right Honorable, the Representative Body of the people of *England* assembled in Parliament,

The humble Petition of Colonel *Anthony Welden*, in behalf of many poor people, wholly ruined by their long attendance, and no wayes heard or redressed,

Sheweth,

That whereas this honorable Representative hath been pleased heretofore to order some peculiar dayes to hear the cries and requests of particular persons, in consideration of many of their sufferings which have been for the publick Cause, no other means being left but their addresses by Petition to this Honourable

rable Houſe, which is of late wholly debarred them likewiſe by thoſe continuall Orders from your Honours, that no private buſineſſe ſhall be moved or heard, by this means multiplying the Peoples lamentable Cryes at your Honors doors, not onely to the much eclipſing the ſplendor of your Juſtice and Mercy, and diſheartning ſuch as have been moſt faithful to the publick, but alſo gives joy and great advantage to their adverſaries, which your Petitioner knowing, was bound in duty to preſent.

May it therefore pleaſe you Honours, as heretofore, ſo ſtill to continue ſuch charitable goodneſſe as to order and ſet apart ſome particular day each week both to hear and redreſs theſe publick cries of multitudes of the people of England, *which beg this charity, indeed their onely hope and right, which will cauſe from them many prayers for the ſucceſſe in all the undertakings of this Honorable Repreſentative.*

And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, ſhall ever pray, &c.

And Mr. Speaker promiſed there ſhould be no more on the reading thereof; yet there hath thrice been for all his Engagement; and ſo may be *ad perpetuum*.

I preferr'd another againſt all Committees, for abuſing the peoples patience, to make attend at ſuch hours as the Houſe appointed, and never would ſit; ſo the Houſe truſting to them, were abuſed as well as the people. The Houſe voted to ſit but three dayes, becauſe the Committees excuſe was, that they were tired out by the Houſes continuall ſitting: but they verily never would come at us thoſe dayes the Houſe did not ſit: Should none dare to tell them of theſe failings, it ſhould grow to be a Law by cuſtom; But as I have ever (without reſpect to my own particular intereſt) told them boldly of theſe errours, ſo ſhall I conſtantly perſevere in the ſame, though to my utter ruine: nor would I care to how much miſerry, or how mean a condition I were reduc'd unto my ſelf, ſo I might but once live to ſee Juſtice impartiall adminiſtred to others.

I ſhall tell you the obſervations of ſome Members of the Houſe diſcourſing to me, when I queſtioned them of hearing

private

private busines: who answered, If they should give way to that, there were as many Petitions as would reach up to the top of Wallingford House. A just principle! Because there was so much, is it therefore a lawfull excuse they should do none at all? So discoursing with another, he told me, There were some of eminent note in the House held it not fit to imply old Commanders as soon as new, because the first were already engaged, had arrears due, and therefore must continue faithful: but they must engage and draw such as were not for them, or had not been theirs already. I'll not give my resolution such Machivilians, but leave the consequence to the judicious Reader. Nor do I here think it necessary to name my Authors, but shall produce the same, if questioned. I am sorry to see policie and honesty not go hand in hand. At the beginning of these Wars it was the main objection, that old souldiers would plunder, and spin out the Service in length; yet the new (in the opinion of most) have outstript the cunningest old Commanders in either. But when Commanders can have neither imployment at home, nor have their accounts stated, nor their arrears paid them, nor be permitted to seek imployment abroad, what shall they do? or how shall they live, being souldiers of fortune, and bred in the Wars? and how many thousands of this nature be there at this present in *England*, that have served the State, and are in a far worse condition then the worst of their enemies that have served against them? For my own part, my Arrears have been due eight years, and purchased by as hard Service as hath been either in *England* or *Ireland*: As first, in relieving the Fort of *Duncannon* besieged, in fighting two yeers daily with the enemy, without any fresh bread but bisket, and often water; besides my ready money disburs'd to buy my Souldiers shooes and stockings, which else must have been unserviceable. I have not received one penny, nor my accounts stated: yet Sir *Arthur Loftus*, and others who came long after me, have Ordinances of Parliament for their Arrears, and interests paid them, to my own knowledge; also my Lieutenant for the same Service, hath received some of his arrears in my absence: I have used all lawfull, honest and humble endeavours that possibly

may

may be for imployment, yet could not be admitted; nay even for a Troop of Horse, either here or for *Ireland*, though I offered to quit all my arrears due for the same. The partiality of these carriages is strange: there are Colonels that were no Commanders at all in this Service when I was, and one of their Colonels now in the Army, but a Lieutenant under me: 'Tis high time for me to learn some mechanick Trade after twenty six yeers Service, and so come to be admitted a Colonel in the Army, as others are, who are not known by their birth, garb, or merit. I am sorry to see Gentry so trodden down, as if they were lesse meritorious, or less faithfull then these new upstarts? that must (to be known) have their Titles written on their fore-heads. If any of the old Commanders hath err'd, let it be publickly known, and he legally convicted and punish'd: but let not however the innocent suffer for the nocent; all are not to be punish'd for the faults of some; though my self lie under this burthen, yet I boldly bid defiance on any that can yeild a just reason why I should be so slighted; unless for this piece of Machiavil's Doctine only, which I fear too many of our Statesmen are too conversant withall; that is, *That he is not to be trusted, to whom an apparant injury or dishonour hath been done*: For they think he can never be zealous in performance, the hight of whose expectation can rather recover a lost respect, then gain a fresh honour: how many mens case is this at present? But Christians should not be so; yet those whose proper actions shew them to be of so harsh a nature, may indeed suspect others by themselves, or at the least, would have them such as they are.

Those whose Arbitrary Wils are Laws binding, and are obey'd for fear, not for love, and ruine all (right or wrong) who dare oppose their actions though never so unjust, and only esteem Parasites, hate truth, cover all their actions with zeal and pretence of the common good; who uphold their power by the Sword alone; those Governours that wear these badges, I dare boldly speak them cruell Tyrants.

That Common-wealth is not surely long lived, that discon-

cents both friends and foes equally, the first by ingratitude, the last by severest cruelty, and both by oppression.

Where the Souldiery is discountenanced by any State, where the power of the Sword rules, instead of doing hurt to others, injure themselves at last, only turning the swords points to their own breasts.

It is a Politique way to pay old arrears in forcing such Commanders as have faithfully served their ends, unregarded and unrewarded for their services, by which contempt, and necessitie of livelihood, they are forc'd by force, some to demand their dues, others revolt, but both the one and the other are condemned as apostates, traitors, and mutineers; thus their arrears are paid, their persons condemned, and at the last by this shift are forc'd to acknowledge the wolves lambs; thus services not otherwise to be rewarded are requited the best way but with the purchase perhaps of some pardon.

Where the Martiall Sword beares sway the Civill cannot rule without confusion, being each oppugnant to others priviledges.

But where the one and the other are confederated together to uphold each others power, I can but lament to know what must follow.

When *I* saw my self thus neglected without any accusation at the least in Publique manner, *I* could not but think it cruelty in the highest nature to be thus ill rewarded; but had *I* ever served against them, *I* could not have expected worse usage, and *I* beleeve none of their worst enemies can paralel mine for hardship.

And for the further truth of what is here written, *I* have thought meet to let the Reader know, if he rest unsatisfied or doubtfull; First, for the *Irish* businesse, I have the hands of my whole Company then under my Command, and more particular affidavits of such of my Company who have both ever since served, and are at this present in the Army under the Parliament for my satisfaction, their severall Certificates are too tedious to insert here, but *I* will satisfie any curiositie to shew them at any time, to any; that discourse of Lincolnshire, *I* referre the Reader to the Earl of *Lincoln* himsel, *Anthony*

thony Erby Major *Lister* now of the House Master *Archer*, Master *Hatcher*; and for the verity of the Kentish businesse *I* refer the Reader to the knowledge herein to Major *Sidastu* to Major *Gibbens* both, yet of their own Army to Cornet *Bray* and Sir *William Waller*; and *I* desire these to speak no more, neither in each businesse then truly they know; for the businesse between Generall *Goring*; I refer to Sir *Nicholas Crispe*, Master *Endimian Porter*, and Master *Sands*, and Master *Spencer*, who all were interessed for the taking it up, if it had been possible, *I* have also the whole processe between Generall *Goring* and my self in *French*, which shall satisfie if any are incredulous in the least manner; If my own relation nor the relation of these men who as gentlemen I know will do me right, may not satisfie, *I* have my sword then as well as pen, to maintain; *I* neither will nor dare slandea any man, against any so far as *I* have life and limbs to satisfie, who question me, if *I* legally be put to make good this declaration or any act of mine *I* should wish no greater favour, os assurance of Justice, but in the interim *I* would willingly see or know who hath suffered more in point of honour for his fidelity, who has had lesse recompences for his services, who more injuries from the publick; for those *I* most esteeme have only injur'd me, because I could never have redresse on any complaint or request, nay so far from that as, I though Plaintiff, and not in my own interest, but for the publick yet was ever, as hitherto for my self made sole sufferer for my *devoir* and arbitrarily but never legally, either by Martiall or Civill power could ever bring it to the course of a legall Tryall; First, if my conscience and fidelity to the Parliament, and my Commands from the Earl of *Leciester* had not obliged me, what had I to do to Article against the Lord *Ormond* whither he betrayed the Fort to the *Irish*, or whether he held it for the King, as he wrote him word by Sir *Henry Stradling*, with whom he long kept private correspodency withall; if I had been false or flattering I had in my own particular, suffered lesse, and gained more honor and profit then for being faithfull; also in *Lincoln* would I have been under *Hotham* as was proposed to me,

I had not needed voluntarily to have resigned; for who can say it was required of me? what needed I have drawn the envie of so many Members of the House, as I did in accusing my Lord *Willoby*, Sir *Christopher Ray*, Sir *Edward Ascu*, Colonel *Grantham*, who were all accessory to the calling in of *Hotham*, as knowing some false before hand, and yet imployed him; what needed *I* have presented sixteen or twenty Articles against Sir *Michael Levesey* concerning abuses to the State, and have gone about to question him my self, for what the State ought to have done in their own right? I resigned my Command for the publique good, or else the best Regiment of *England* had by his mutiny privately against me been broken and ruin'd at a time they had the chiefest need of them; the worst enemy I have can but say my fault was, I was ever zealous in following truth so neer at the heels till she dashed out my teeth; yet I may even be excused in this, if any one look on those oaths were put on me, the clause whereof in one was, That as far as in me lay *I* was to reveale any thing prejudiciall to the State, and help to bring the Actors thereof to condign punishment; indeed *I* have brought my selfe for this both to shame and ruine; for the taking of this Covenant and in the pursuance thereof, all the disgrace *I* received hath hapned to me; it is a sad thing that such oaths should be first urg'd by the State, and that (yet themselves equivocate with them) they should undoe any man for observing them, for which only my condition has been so sad, that the worst of their enemies hath not suffered so much; it has been often objected by some *I* have too high a Spirit which only hinders me, but *I* leave it to the Reader, whether my waighting five whole years for justice argues not the contrary, and much patience in me; for what concerned my own interest, I never have had a difference yet with any persons, that I have not pressed to have it referred to any indifferent Arbitrators; which shews my nature far from refractorinesse and sullennesse; for he that on any difference denies a reference, shews an opiniative and ill disposition, or argues the guiltinesse of his own conscience, and so would not have it seen he is in the

wrong

wrong, but would wrangle it out. Some say likewise, I am given much to fall out with my Superiours: I had never any dispute with any Inferiour or Superiour, but it was in the Souldiers right, and because I would not have them cozened or wronged of their just dues: And if any such falling out were with Superiours, it needs not be doubted, if any Inferiour do injure them, they may have right at pleasure. Now I would have any one say, where I was ever for any falling out, either cashier'd or punish'd any way, legally or otherwise. And if for these reasons men will be so indiscreet or unworthy to tax me wrongfully, and on their bare opinions, I need not weigh it; for it is not my fortune only to be slandered: But the world way see by this, I want not enemies, and great ones; yet none of them all dares tell me the least to my face; and for backbiters, none can avoid their calumnies: But see what hath been the fruit of this eight or nine yeers service of mine, but envie and contempt, for only being faithfull, and neither a Parasite nor time-observer.

Many tell me, the reason why I am not imployed, is, because I speak against the Parliament: It is their actions I ever exclaimed against, and not their persons, nor their just Authority or Priviledge. It goes much against my heart and conscience, to see that arbitrary power continue in them, for which they plucked others down, and see so many poor oppressed cry at their doors daily for justice, without dispatch, hearing, redress, or hopes thereof. It grieves me much to see men that have faithfully served them, and ventured their lives, limbs and all, and for recompence, finde more scorn and contempt, and lesse reward or relief then the worst of those who had long ago plucked them down but for these. It grieves me to see Committees so domineer without limitations, or to do unjust acts and oppressions without being call'd to account. It grieves me to see Mechanicks set up, and Gentry pull'd down: If I have given my tongue freedom of speech, it hath been chiefly to have such like actions and abuses reformed, for their own Honours, that their enemies might not have so much just cause to revile their actions, and bring them in

contempt.

contempt. I have done more in love and zeal then hatred; or I have had other opportunities to express in other manner then in speech, if I had hated their Authority: though I cannot approve some of their actions for my own interest, yet I have been so far from seeking it, that I would willingly suffer any punishment, whether by neglect, poverty, or even to the losse of my life, so others might be righted and not ruin'd. My actions all my life shews, that I esteem no man born for the good of himself, or his own interest alone: my Principle hath ever been to do as I would others should do to me. I defie all the world, or the worst of my Enemies to contradict me in the least, of a debauched life, or that my life and actions have not suited to these my expressions.

When I had thus done all I could do, and let no occasion slip, I could neither get imployment, nor my arrears stated or payd, nor liberty to raise men to carry abroad; a thing scarcely ever denyed to any but my self, whether friend or foe. They having undone me so that I was able to subsist here no longer, I am now put to this extremity for my reward, either to starve here, or begin the world anew abroad: And judg what hopes I can expect abroad without men, when all such are scorn'd and contemn'd (how deserving soever, as have but served this State: so contemptible have their actions made them or their adherents abroad, as being taken for destroyers of Regall Power: which I clearly disavow the having any hand therein. Yet I must venture, and am now Petitioner for my Pass, which they have (after much waiting) granted me; but deny me a Testimonial of my good Service, and all other my reasonable and modest demands. But they cannot either in honour or conscience (since they reward me no better) deny me to seek my advantage where I can: and since they would not give me here imployment, though I offered all my Arrears, I would they would give me but so much of them as would carry me beyond Seas; I must forgive them the rest, because I know not how to get it, unless I must stay to be starved, as others have been in their attendance already. I'll bid them adieu however, and wish they

may

may learn to have more conscience, and better rewards for others then they have had for me. This is the last Declaration I shall proclaim to the world touching my own particular wrongs and sufferings: yet in more convenient time and place I shall give the Reader notice of some remarkable observations of my own, of the true cause and proceedings of the wars of *Ireland* and *Scotland* which I have not as yet seen or heard hath been treated on by any; it will will disclose that, though known by some persons, yet none as hitherto either through feare or negligence hath given publick notice to the world, I shall fear no power that can make me smother truth. I shall stay expresly some time in town to answer any Champion either of State or Army that shall dare question me for this Declaration by the Sword; if by Civill power I am ready by witnesse to make every tittle thereof good; this offer I hope will satisfie all men.

Col.

Col. *Weldon* his PROTESTATION in his own Particular, being forced thereto by neceſſity.

WHereas, by the reaſons in this Declaration ſpecified, it appeareth evidently, my utter ruine and diſgrace hath been only for my fidelity and over-much zeal to the State, for which I have not only been puniſh'd, debarr'd of imployment, can neither have thoſe arrears, nor ready moneys diſburs'd for them, paid me, having nought elſe to ſubſiſt by, but being reduc'd by theſe means into a more miſerable condition then the meaneſt ſouldier in their Army; having left no means unattempted by ſuing to this Repreſentative, and ſuch other Committees intruſted by them to ſuch ends: but being hopeleſs of Juſtice or redreſſe in the leaſt manner, having ſued for it theſe five years, and eight years ſince the ſaid arrears became due. For theſe ends I have been for my ſelf enforced [ſince all lawfull means have been debarred, and my many ſupplications (the free-born Subjects right of this Land) have been denyed me, or delayed me ſo far, as I am not able longer to attend, and in hourly danger to be laid in priſon, and there to periſh for ſuch debts (over and above the ruine of my eſtate for them) I have run into by my attendance:] For theſe premiſſes I am (I ſay) forced to *proteſt*, to leave no means in any manner hereafter unattempted towards the recovery of my juſt due, for which I have ſo freely ventured my life; for, my Arrears due are my whole ſubſiſtence. And this may ſatiſie, that what-ever inconvenience at any time may enſue, thoſe which deny me my due, or protract it to my periſhing, will be the ſole Authors, and not my ſelf.

FINIS.